The Blurb

A Publication of

THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.

c/o 641 KISMET ROAD, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19115-1114

PM 08 30 OCT 1999

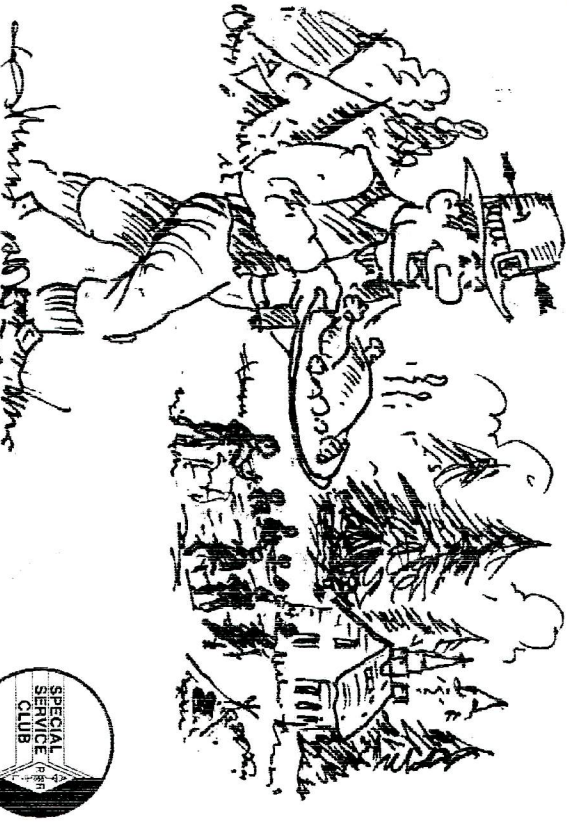
THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE SCIENCE MUSEUM PHILADELPHIA
AMATEUR RADIO W3AA STATION
PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB

W3IIM WS

J & J HARING
PO BOX 640
Useppa Island
Bokeella FL 33922

FIRST CLASS MAIL

33922+0640



A HAPPY Thanksgiving TO ALL FROM PHIL-MONT

PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB

The **Blurb**

NOVEMBER 1999

SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

Public Service Since 1949

VOLUME 49
NUMBER 11
is published monthly by, and for, the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC. whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. Subscriptions are available to nonmembers for $10 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday of every month at **The Franklin Institute Science Museum**, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street, Philadelphia. Enter from Winter Street or the parking garage on 21st street. ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!

Amateur Radio License Examinations are held on the *first* non-holiday Thursday of every month at The Franklin Institute Science Museum—registration finishes at 6 p.m. doors close at 6:30 PM-*SHARP!*

CLUB INFORMATION
Mailing address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001
Internet Web site: http://www.phil-mont.org
E-mail: info@phil-mont.org
2-meter repeater: 147.03 MHz (Main site Roxborough receiver requires no PL, but transmits 91.5 Hz.)
Additional off-site receivers require the following subaudible tones:
Southampton 131.8 Hz—*Center City* 103.5 Hz—*Lansdale* 114.8 Hz—*Broomall* 85.4 Hz
70-cm repeater: 444.80 MHz (186.2 Hz PL)
Simplex: 147.51 MHz
24-hour club information at W3AA: 215-448-1139

STATIONS
W3AA - (Formerly W3TKQ) The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee WU3I; Maanager: W3STW
The club sponsors this world-class demonstration station, and welcomes all licensed amateurs to operate it.
W3AA packet BBS frequency: 144.99 MHz: w3aa@w3aa.#sepa.pa.usa.noam
W3AA e-mail: w3aa@phil-mont.org
W3EM - Field Day and special events station - Trustee W3VVS
W3QV - 147.03 MHz repeater - Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB

OFFICERS
PRESIDENT: W3CH, Russ Stafford, Box 379, Eagleville, PA 19408-0379; 610-631-3401 x902
w3ch@hdj.com——w3ch@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam
VICE PRESIDENT: AA3EP, Charlie Weigand, 91 Moyer Road, Pottstown, PA 19464; 610-323-1050
aa3ep@aol.com——aa3ep@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam
SECRETARY: N3LCV, Arthur Weiner, 11016 Audubon Ave., Phila., PA 19116; 215-698-1606
aweiner@fast.net
ASST. SECRETARY: W3RED, William H. MacKenzie, 421 N. Spring Garden St. Ambler, PA 19002; 610-646-6248
TREASURER: K2BN, Mike Tannenbaum, 545 Cardinal Drive, Dresher, PA 19025; 215-542-5991
k2bn@agtannenbaum.com packet: K2BN@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam

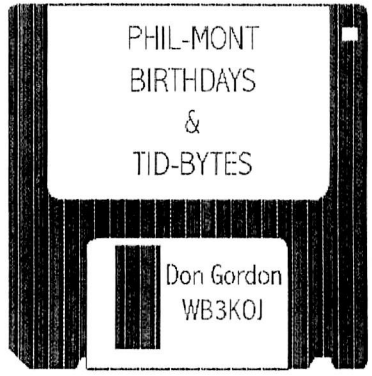
DIRECTORS

N3PVO (00); WU3I (00); W3RM (00); W3GQD (99); KB3IV (99); N3XKE (99); W3STW (A)

COMMITTEES
Archives: W3IIN; **Audit:** KE3OP; **Awards:** AA3EP; **Blurb folding:** WB3KOJ & WB3KOH; **Budget:** K3KUD; **Directory:** WB3KOJ & W3IIM; **DX:OPEN ; Education:** W3CH; **Emerg.Coor.:** N3XKE; **Field Day:** WU3I; **Internet:** W3IIM; **Membership:** W3LEN; **Net Control:** KB3IV; **Publicity:** W3RM **Program:** AA3EP; **Public Service:** AA3EP; **Refreshments:** W3AOK; **Repeater:** W3BBB; **Skywarn:** N3LCV; **Special Events:** N3WCO; **Sunshine:** WU3I; **Youth:** KE3ZY; **TVI:** W3VVS; **VE Program:** ND3Q; **W3AA Trustee:** WU3I; **W3AA Station Manager:** W3STW; **Welcome:** K3CJ.

NET SCHEDULE

Sunday	09:30	147.03	MHzFM	"Sunday Morning 2 Meter Net
	10:00	28.393 (+ or - for QRM)	MHzSSB	"10-on-10 Net"
	10:20	3.993	MHzSSB	75 Meter Net
Tuesday	20:00	147.03	MHzFM	CW Practice Net



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

01 **Pauline Green (XYL K3HES)**
04 **Arlene Spare (XYL N3TAL)**
Charlie Weigand - AA3EP
05 Delores Malone (XYL N3MGS)
Al Tribble - W3STW
09 Walter Rice Jr - N3RCR
12 Arnold Sadwin - KC2HX
13 Chuck Snyder - W2HSA
14 Chris McCormick - N3JHR
18 "Gil" Gilpin - W3SRU
Jules Miller - W3SV
Bill Share - N3XTM
19 Brad Swanson - N3GLH
20 Bob Gargano - N3YGY
21 Guy Knickerbocker - W3RJA
22 **Bill Popovic - W3AOK**
23 Chap Fichera - KB3DQH*
24 **Roxanne Pearlstein - N3KQH**
24 Delores Policarpo (XYL N3PP)
25 **Dusty Rhoads - ND3Q**
27 Mel Toren - N2MT
28 Elfriede Williams (XYL KB3CPC*)
29 Bob Nicotero - KB2ERL
Betty Walmsley (XYL W3DO)

*Indicate New Member 1998-99

MEMBERSHIP STATS.

161 FULL
16 FAMILY
8 YOUTH
3 HONORARY
4 PENDING
192

HELP PHIL-MONT Are you planning to join ARRL or renew your current membership? Help P.M.R.C. by joining or renewing through the club ..contact Mike Tannenbaum - K2BN, for details.

"DON'T TAILGATE... WAIT"—for the courtesy 📸!

PRESS RELEASE
from U.S. Coast Guard

COAST GUARD RESCUES FOUR AFTER BOAT SINKS

This morning at 1:27 AM, a 41' Rescue Boat from the Atlantic City station rescued four men from their sinking liferaft five miles southeast of Atlantic City.

At 1:03 AM Coast Guard Station Atlantic City received a Mayday call from the crew on the liferaft using a handheld marine radio. They indicated that their 37' vessel "Sure Thing" had sunk and that they were in an inflatable raft. They also indicated that the raft was leaking air. Within three minutes, the rescue boat was underway.

Rescued were Robert Nicotera1 (KB2ERL) 47 of Pennsylvania, Steve Nicotera 17, Jeff Valtes, 21, and Edward Morris, 41. All four men were taken to the Coast Guard station.

The operator indicated that he couldn't make a Mayday call from the "Sure Thing" because water had covered the boats batteries, disabling the radio.

"The operator was certainly prudent to have an alternate means of communication available. The handheld radio enabled us to launch right away and make the rescue. Without the mayday call, it is possible that no one would have realized there was trouble until the next day when they failed to return as scheduled" said LT Rich Condit, Commanding Officer of the station. "Having the right safety gear can sometimes mean the difference between life and death."

3D continued from page 17

The flight transporting the VHF and UHF hand-held transceivers and associated antennas and accessories to the ISS had been scheduled to launch in December. NASA imposed a shuttle launch hiatus to perform electrical inspections of the entire shuttle fleet, however, disrupting the launch schedule. The inspections came in the wake of problems during the July launch of the shuttle Columbia, when astronauts and ground controllers struggled with power failures in computers controlling two of the orbiter's three main engines.

"Our number one priority for the space shuttle is to fly safely, and that is why we delayed our launch preparations and have performed comprehensive wiring inspections and repairs," Space Shuttle Program Manager Ron Dittemore said.

NASA and Russian space agency officials also have agreed to delay the launch of the Zvezda service module that will house the amateur gear. According to NASA, a US delegation and the Russians agreed that "it is no longer prudent to proceed with the current service module schedule." The new projected launch window is between December 26 and January 16.

In August, key antenna hardware for the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station project headed for NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center to undergo integration and flight qualification testing. The initial ham gear will support amateur operation from the ISS on voice and AFSK packet on 2 meters and 70 cm.

For more information on ARISS, visit http://garc.gsfc.nasa.gov/~ariss/ariss.html.

The PREZ SEZ

Hello Phil-Monsters. If you missed the 50th birthday party, all I have to say is WOW! What a great time was had by all. If you made it, then you know what a nice time it was. The food was great and sixty-five Philmonsters cleaned up the wonderful food. If you go over to the PMRC web site and click on Dick, W3RM's picture it pretty much sums it all up on the wonderful desserts. HAPPY BIRTHDAY PHIL-MONT!

On to business. Charlie, AA3EP is looking for help for **Brians Run** the 1st Sunday of next month (Dec). If you have not done your one Public Service event this year this will be the last one sponsored by Phil-Mont. This year Brians Run is a very small event and lasts just about one hour. But, yes there is always a 'but". You have to get in to your check point an hour before the event as they close off all the streets. Its a 10k run thru the streets of West Chester, Pa.

The next big event for the club will be the Annual Ham Radio AUCTION-FEST Wednesday, January 12, 2000 at 19:00hrs (7pm). There will be flyers at the up- coming meetings so talk-it up. This event is PMRC's only fund raiser each year.

73, Russ

UPCOMING

November 3 Director's meeting at K2BN

November 10 General Meeting

December 1 Director's meeting at WB3KOJ

Bryan's Run will be held in December of 1999

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Charlie Weigand, AA3EP
Phone610-323-1050
Packet: aa3p@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam
E-mail aa3ep@aol.com

Russ Stafford, W3CH
Phone: (610)631-3401 ext. 902
Packet: w3ch@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam
E-mail: w3ch@hdj.com

THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE SCIENCE MUSEUM

AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS HELD ON THE FIRST NON-HOLIDAY THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
For information call ND3Q at 215-448-1139 or 879-0505 accessible by the handicapped

Registration begins at 6:00 PM
Doors close at 6:30 PM sharp

VE Test Locations

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring the original, and one photocopy of their license. All applicants, including children, must show two other types of ID. Also bring the original, and a copy, of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC's 1999 test fee is $6.45; there is no charge for a Novice test.

- **The FRANKLIN INSTITUTE**
  Monthly, 1st Thursday—Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q
  215- 879-0505 *day*, 215- 448-1139 *24-hours*

- **BELLMAWR, NJ**
  Diane Nafis
  609-227-6281

- **BRISTOL**
  George LeNoir
  215-943-4886

- **LEVITTOWN, PA**
  David L. Heller, 215-946-1040

- **LINWOOD, PA**–(Commercial & Amateur Exams.)
  Russ Stafford, W3CH
  610-631-3401 x902

- **TELFORD**
  Joseph Burgess
  215-723-6697

- **UNIVERSITY OF PA**
  Jeff DePolo
  215- 898-8538 *shack*, 215-337-7383 *home*

- **WARMINSTER**
  Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ
  (215) 343-3494

- **WILMINGTON**
  Giselle Walls
  302-478-2757

Radio Legend Jean Shepherd, K2ORS, SK

Radio broadcasting legend Jean Shepherd, K2ORS, died October 16. He was 78. News reports say Shepherd died in a hospital near his home in Sanibel Island, Florida.
One of the original radio "talkers," Shepherd gained a loyal following of overnight listeners during his more than two-decade tenure at powerful WOR in New York during the 1950s, 60s and early 70s.

Shepherd remained active on HF SSB and occasionally on 2-meter FM. A former ARRL member, he did some hamming from his boat in Florida in recent years.
On the air, "Shep" worked without a script or reliance on telephone callers spinning yarns—typically with a sardonic edge—often based on his boyhood years in Hammond, Indiana, and his time in the Army and occasionally mentioning ham radio. Among the characters he created was alter ego Ralphie Parker, who appeared in his 1983 film classic "A Christmas Story," which he wrote and narrated.

Shepherd also penned numerous articles and several books, including In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash in 1966 and Wanda Hickey's Night of Golden Memories in 1971. He also produced the TV programs Jean Shepherd's America and Shepherds's Pie for PBS, as well as several PBS American Playhouse productions, including The Phantom of the Open Hearth and The Great American Fourth of July and Other Disasters.

His third wife, Leigh, died last year, and he had no survivors.

"He captivated a generation with his stories," said vintage radio buff John Dilks, K2TQN. "He is survived by Schwartz, Flick, Bruner and all of the other wonderful characters he created."

For detailed information on Jean Shepherd, visit http://www.advanix.net/~jsadur/shep.htm or http://www.spacelab.net/~bkaye/Shep.html.

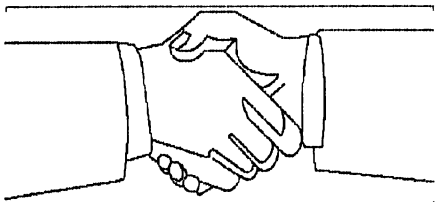
3D continued from previous page

Ariane flights. "Things are very fluid right now as regards launch manifests with Ariane," Baker said, adding that launch and payload schedules can change "in a big hurry."
In a news release last week, Arianespace would only say that the launch "will take place in the year 2000" and that AMSAT Phase 3D would be "one of the first secondary payloads boosted by Ariane 5, which will use a special adapter for orbital injection."
Arianespace says that Phase 3D, which weighs 1430 pounds, will be injected into a geostationary transfer orbit. The satellite then will use its own propulsion system to reach an elliptical orbit ranging from approximately 2480 miles to more than 27,000 miles from Earth.
Once in its intended orbit, Phase 3D will have an estimated life span of 10 years. For more information on Phase 3D, visit the AMSAT-NA Web site, http://www.amsat.org.

ISS FLIGHTS RESET

NASA now says the space shuttle Atlantis flight—mission STS-101—that will carry the initial Amateur Radio gear into space for the International Space Station will launch no earlier than February 10, 2000.

3D continued on page 18



Membership Applications

CALL: WA1ZGE
NAME: DAVID MARTIN
NICKNAME: DAVID
CLASS: T+
ADDRESS: 903 Bockboard Way
Lansdale PA 19446
OCCUPATION: ADMINISTRATOR
HOME PHONE: 215-368-1650
BUS. PHONE: 215-540-1651 EXT202
E-MAIL: dmartin@lirstlab.com
PACKET:
COMMITTEES: Emer. Coor. Net control Skywarn

Below is a letter sent to our President by N3QIE. Russ asked that it be printed here.

Mr. President:

Russ, I regret that I cannot make the 50th anniversary bash. Too many problems stand in the way and I just can't make it.

If it were possible, I would like to personally thank all those who have signed petitions for the Battleship New Jersey. It now looks like we have won our fight. Bayonne, NJ has been rejected as a site for the ship for several reasons.

Official announcement for the site will be made in January, 2000. The ship will be in the Philly Navy Yard about November 4-5. It is, at this time, going through the Panama Canal.

Those in charge of the Camden site have unofficially agreed to the idea of a reactivation of the ship's radio room. I hope Phil-mont will give that some thought.

May Phil-Mont have 50 more years. I'll try to give the Blurb 500 more covers and Sams' Corner.

All the Best,

Phase 3D

Phase 3D Project Leader Karl Meinzer, DJ4ZC, and a delegation from AMSAT-DL are at the Phase 3D Integration Laboratory in Orlando this week, giving the satellite a final once-over. "So far, everything is proceeding smoothly," said AMSAT-NA President Keith Baker, KB1SF. He said the German team is putting P3D through its paces as a final checkout prior to shipping the satellite to the launch site at Kourou in French Guiana at month's end.

A contract accepting Phase 3D as a payload for the "first suitable" Arianespace Ariane 5 vehicle launch was signed October 5. Meinzer said a launch opportunity could come during the first half of next year. The AMSAT-DL Web site alludes to what it called an "appropriate" launch opportunity next April for the Ariane 506 flight. But Baker and AMSAT-DL caution that market conditions play a role in governing the manifest for

3D continued on next page

Minutes

OCTOBER DIRECTORS' MEETING

Art Weiner, N3LCV, *Secretary*

Minutes were taken by Red (W3RED), Asst. Secretary

The October meeting was called to order by our President, Russ, W3CH at the home of Steve, WU3I and Joann, N3FTC at 8:05 PM

Treasurer's report: Mike, K2BN- Insurance charges are down (our discounts were better) and our phone bills are higher. Phone charges for services are going to be investigated at great length.

Membership: Russ, W3CH- One new applicant, who attended, was informed about the new rules requiring attendance at at least two meetings and also attendance at special service events. Welcome to our newest member, who was in attendance, Raoul, KB3DBG.

W3AA: Al, W3STW- Lightning strike hit W3AA antenna and some radios. Repairs are underway.

50th Anniversary Dinner- It was moved and seconded that representatives from the Franklin Institute would be invited to attend, as our guests.

Old Business: W3RM- Our 501 (c) (3) aopplication is in progress. The Broomall site is to be dismantled and replaced by the Chester site.

Current Business: The nominating committee consists of Dick, W3RM; Ed, KB3IV and Jim, W3BBB. If you would like to run for office or would like to nominate someone for office contact one of the above.

Those attending the meeting were Jim, W3BBB; Charlie, AA3EP; Mike, K2BN; Red, W3RED; Carol, N3PVO; Rick, N3DHI; Bob, K3KUD; Russ, W3CH; Dick, W3RM; Steve, WU3I and Thom, KF4I, on vacation from Florida.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS HELD ON THE FIRST NON-HOLIDAY THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
Registration begins at 6:00 PM
Doors close at 6:30 PM *sharp*
THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE SCIENCE MUSEUM
For Information Call ND3Q at
(215) 448-1139 or **879-0505**
Accessible by the handicapped.

THE W3AA REPORT

The International Voice of The Franklin Institute Science Museum

Sorrowfully, W3AA notes the death of Len, WB3JUA. Len volunteered on Sunday mornings and was, with Marc, WA3CRM, net control for the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club's Sunday morning **Ten on Ten** net (often referred to as the Marc and Len Show).

Many thanks to Barry, K3EUI for his W3AA net control activities during the September 26, 1999 MS-150 City- to Shore Bike Tour.

Kudos to Charlye, K3CJ for the oscilloscope that makes up part of the 'see your voice exhibit' in the station.

I would be remiss were I not to state here, for all to see, my appreciation and thanks to the Cadre of Control Operators that kept W3AA operating this past month.

W3AA seeks the opportunity to participate in the F.I.S.M. Camp-In activity. So, if you can help please let me know. Camp-In dates are October 29, 30 and November 12, 1999 from 6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. Also, W3AA needs Amateur Radio Operators to explain Amateur Radio to visitors. If you can volunteer four or more hours a day please contact me Al, W3STW, at 215-639-6771.

Regarding the damage to W3AA caused by lightning, repairs are slow, but thanks to Steve, WU3I, and all the others I can say we are moving forward. 73, Al.

Internet: http://www.fi.edu/tfi/exhibits/w3aa.html

An Open Letter to Amateur Radio Operators:

On behalf of the board of Trustees of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and the more than 8,400 families who deal daily with the unpredictability of MS, we extend our sincere thanks to you for assisting with the MS 150 City to Shore Bike Tour.

This past weekend more than 4, 000 cyclists and 1,200 volunteers came together to help fight MS. The ability of the MS Society to provide a safe event is in large part due to the efforts of the Ham Radio Operators. Please know how much we appreciate the time, effort and caring that you bring to the event.

See you in 2000,
Judith G. Gordon, President
and
John H. Scott
Sr. Vice President
National Multiple Sclerosis Society

Congratulations

Of the 117 volunteers registered for the MS150, Phil-Monters provided the majority (66) representing 56% of the group!

Considering that 12 family members were included in the count, what this really means is that only 54 licensed PMRC members participated.

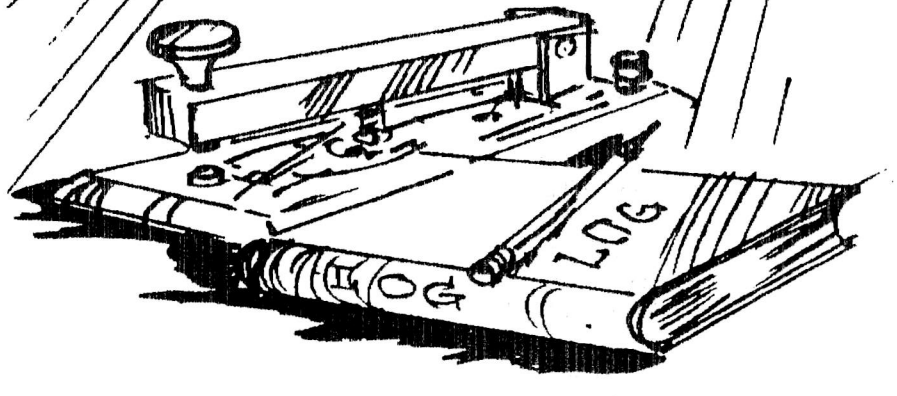
Out of a club of 192, is 28% of the membership a good showing?

Let your conscience be your guide.
W3IIM

PA Ham License Plates

Pennsylvania ham plate holders, you've got a friend in K3TX: All standard blue-and-yellow Pennsylvania auto license plates—including amateur call sign plates—are being replaced soon at no cost. Pennsylvania's Department of Transportation wants all ham radio call sign plates to carry the "Amateur Radio" legend, but PennDOT's records do not always distinguish between call sign and vanity plates. If your Pennsylvania call sign plate carries an "Amateur Radio" or "Amateur Radio Operator" legend, you're OK. If your plate has no legend or a "You've Got A Friend in Pennsylvania" or "Keystone State" legend, PennDOT records do not show that the plate is a ham radio call sign tag. To make sure their new plates have the "Amateur Radio" legend, hams may contact Dave Heller, K3TX, who's volunteered to help fellow Pennsylvania hams get the right replacement tags. Hams may, of course, work through a local tag agent, but if you'd like his help, contact Dave Heller, K3TX, PO Box 224, Morrisville, PA 19067. He has no e-mail. Call 215-736-3333 or 215-946-1040, preferably late evenings. When writing, please enclose an SASE.
(From ARRL Letter)

PHIL-MONT Silent Key



Len Kovnat WB3JUA
Septeber 6, 1921 - October 1, 1999

Minutes

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

Art Weiner, N3LCV, *Secretary*

Minutes taken by Red (W3RED), Asst. Secretary.

The 590th General Meeting of the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club was called to order by our President, Russ, W3CH at 8:00 PM.

Treasurer's Report-Mike, K2BN: We are solvent.

Field Day- Steve, WU3I: We need two more band captains — 10 and 75 meters.

Membership: two prospective members were recognized by Russ and presented to the members. Dave, WA1ZGE and Tony N3YNH. Membership chairman Len, W3LEN presented our newest member, Raoul, KB3DBG with his official badge and packet.

Net Control- Ed, KB3IV: We would still like to have more Net control persons for the Tuesday Night Code Practice.

Programs- Chrlie, AA3EP: Charlie thanked everyone for helping out with the MS150. He invited everyone to support **Brian's Run** in West Chester on the first weekend in December.

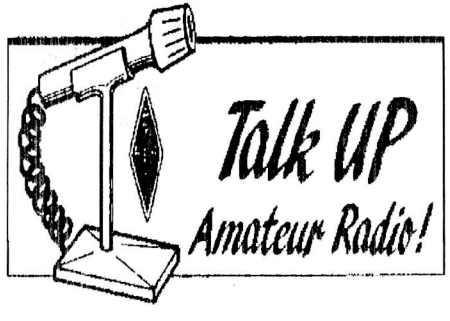
Sunshine- Steve, WU3I: Welcome back to Ted, N3OWM after surgery.

W3AA- Al, W3STW: More help is needed to man W3AA. For qualifications, times, etc. contact Al.

Welcome -Charlye, K3CJ: 31 members and 5 guests were present. Of the 5 guests 2 have made application for membership.

New Business-Dick, W3RM: The nominating committee was announced. Dick, W3RM; Ed, KB3IV and Jim, W3BBB.

At 8:30 the business meeting was adjourned and turned over to Charlie, AA3EP who introduced "Old radios for fun and profit" by Mike, K2BN and Fred, WA3KIO.



NEXT YEAR'S HAMFESTS

This information is just starting to be announced, so the following list is not complete!

JAN 30 + MD Mobileers ARC - Odenton, MD
FEB 19 Harrisburg RAC - PA
MAR 12 + Keystone VHF Club - York, PA
MAR 25-26+ Baltimore ARC - Timonium, MD MD State Convention
APR 9 Two Rivers ARC - PA
APR 30 Penn-Del ARC - New Castle, DE
MAY 6 Binghamton ARA - Owego, NY
MAY 7 + Antietam RA - Hagerstown, MD
MAY 28 Maryland FM Assn - West Friendship, MD
JUN 2- 4+ Rochester Hamfest - Rochester, NY Atlantic Division Convention
JUN 4 Breezeshooters - Butler, PA
JUN 10 + Columbia-Montour ARC - Bloomsburg, PA
JUL 2 + Murgas ARC - Dallas, PA
JUL 9 North Hills ARC - Pittsburgh, PA
JUL 16 + Mid-Atlantic ARC / Valley Forge Hamfest - Kimberton, PA
AUG 13 + Jersey Shore ARS - Bayville, NJ
SEP 9 Radio Assn of Erie - Erie, PA
SEP 23 + Buffalo Hamfest - Hamburg, NY Western NY Section Convention
73, DE Kay Craigie WT3P & Bernie Fuller N3EFN

+ indicates ARRL Hamfest

Blurb STAFF
Editor: Dean M. Spare, N3TAL
P.O. Box 575 Marlton, New Jersey 08053
n3tal@erols.com or packet n3tal@w3aa #sepa.pa usa.noam
Artist: N3QIE (498th issue)
Labels and mailing: WB3KOJ & WB3KOH
Deadline: To be assured of publication in the current month, all copy must be in the hands of the Editor at the General meeting of the month before publication.

Self Examination

Thanks to the inattention (or courtesy) of the publishers of Delmont's newsletter RAG CHEW, I still receive a copy of each month's publication. (I tried to redirect all exchange newsletters when Dean took-over the editorship of the BLURB about a year ago).

I can't help but notice how Delmont's newsletter has come-up from the doldrums to its present state of excellence. I think that fact justifies a closer look at what make the Delmont club what it is today.

According to its latest newsletter there are 48 members of the club. At its last meeting in June (apparently they don't have regular meetings in the summer either), 25 people attended the meeting. If memory serves me correctly, many of the Phil-Mont General meetings have similar numbers. Could this mean that their meetings are four times more interesting than ours? (We have almost 4 times their membership.)

Perhaps it's the sit-down dinner that precedes the meeting (23 of the 25 June meeting attendees also came for dinner).

Perhaps it's the interesting speakers that they always manage to obtain (and advertise far in advance).

Perhaps it's the location of their meetings where no one has to drive an hour, and pay $6 to park safely.

I believe it's a combination of all of the above.

Apparently not satisfied with their level of success, I see that they're forming a task force of three members "...for the purpose of acquiring speakers for our [general] meetings. Hopefully, with three members making calls for future speakers, it should provide adequate lead-time to notify the membership of whom will be speaking at a designated [meeting] date. If all goes well, the lead-time could be a month or two in advance of the actual presentation."

Having worn the program chairman's hat (VP) many years ago, I understand the problem of obtaining quality speakers for each month's meeting. Recognizing that initially, I enlisted two former VPs to help me get the ball rolling. At the end of our "committee meeting" we already had enough ideas to fill the entire year's calendar (and that's when we had to provide speakers for every month but December). And with their continued help, we managed to arrange some very interesting meetings... well in advance of the meeting date.

If Phil-Mont expects to continue its second 50 years as successfully as the first 50, I think it behooves the Board to consider some significant changes in the way things are structured---and I don't mean limiting officers to a maximum number of years they may serve.

Let's think BIG for a change.

Jack Haring, W3IIM, former BLURB editor.

CALLING ALL AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS!

by Jack Haring, W3IIM

Our club's archives enjoy a large number of photographs of past club events and nearly forgotten members. As digital cameras quickly become the vogue, I believe that hard copy photographic prints could soon become the exception, rather than the rule. Thus we must think about how the current, and future, generations of club-related photographs will be retained for the enjoyment of members present and future.

I suggest that 1.44 meg diskettes will remain industry standard media for many years, and that all photos, that you think should be archived, be sent, on these diskettes, to the club archivist for retention. All photos should be either JPG or GIF (for compatibility with Internet browsers), and all diskettes should be clearly labeled.

I'll take the responsibility to copy to diskettes all currently published digital photos that have been posted recently on our Web site (Field Day, MS150, and 50th anniversary party). Subsequent photos should be copied to diskettes and sent to the archives directly.

I'm sure we would wear-out our ComCation welcome if we began posting *every* photo that *every* member thought interesting. Our benevolent Web host (ComCation.Com), which donates its services, would soon complain about all the hard disk space we were using, and as Webmaster, I can assure you that I'd too start complaining about all the work I had to do to post them all!

If you enjoyed the small display of club archives that was available at the 50th anniversary dinner, please keep the archives in mind as events unfold in the future. The current collection overflows six full-sized file drawers, and we could only display less than 10% of their contents at the dinner! 50 years of interesting photos and memorabilia are worth keeping. Let's go for another 50!

DX news

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by Tedd, KB8NW, The Daily DX, QRZ DX, 4X1VF, 425 DX News and Contest Corral from QST. Thanks to all.

ISRAEL, 4X. 4Z0A will be QRV for about 8 hours on October 23 from Akhziv Island, IOTA AS-100, using CW and SSB on 20, 15 and 10 meters. QSL via 4Z5DW.

BURUNDI, 9U. Gus, 9U5D, has been QRV on 28445 khz around 1100z and 6 meters around 1700 to 1900z. QSL via SM0BFJ.

AUSTRAL ISLANDS, FO. Koji, JK7TKE, is QRV from Tubuai as FO0KOJ until October 28. QSL to home call.

SAINT MARTIN, FS. Brian, N3OC, is QRV as FS/N3OC until October 26. He is concentrating on 30, 17, 12 and 6 meters and is active using RTTY. He expected a one-day RTTY trip to Anguilla, VP2E, during this time. QSL to home call.

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, HC8. Rich, N6KT, is QRV as HC8A until November 1. He will also participate in the CQ WW SSB DX contest. QSL via WV7Y.

OGASAWARA ISLANDS, JD1. Katsu, JD1BKR, is QRV until October 27 from Iwo Jima, IOTA AS-030. He will return on November 4 for about six months. QSL via JA bureau.

FERNANDO DE NORONHA ISLAND, PY0. Peter, PY5CC, is QRV as PY0FM until November 1 on all bands, with an emphasis on 6 meters. QSL via JA1VOK.

BANGLADESH, S2. JA8RUZ, JA1UT, JA1AFF and JS1QHO are QRV as S21ZE. QSL via JA1UT. Meanwhile, Stig, S21YJ, has been QRV on 28460 khz around 0800z. QSL via SM4AIO.

WESTERN KIRIBATI, T30. Look for T30Y and T30CW to be QRV using SSB, and CW and RTTY, respectively, on 80 to 10 meters, including 17 and 12 meters. QSL both calls via DL7DF.

UKRAINE, UR. EO55JM is QRV from October 25 to 29 to celebrate 55 years of Ukrainian liberation. QSL via UX3FW.

LORD HOWE ISLAND, VK9L. Dee, W1HEO, will be QRV as VK9LM beginning October 24. Activity is expected on 20 and 15 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

MONTSERRAT, VP2M. Look for VP2MBT and VP2MGL to be QRV until October 30. They are active using CW, SSB and RTTY on 80 to 10 meters, including the newer bands. QSL both calls via EA3BT.

ANTARCTICA. ZM5PX is active from IOTA AN-011, and has been QRV on 14164 khz around 0600z. QSL via operator's instructions.

1999 NOVEMBER 1999

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Code Practice 8PM WA3NSP	3 DIRECTORS' MEETING at K2BN	4 174th LICENSE EXAM Session at The Franklin Institute Registration finishes at 6:00 Doors close at 6:30 p.m. sharp!	5	6
7 2M NCS N3FTY 10M NCS W3AA 75M NCS N3JDM New Moon ●	8	9 Code Practice 8PM W3AOK	10 General Meeting at The Franklin Institute Refreshments at 7:00 p.m. Meeting starts at 7:30	11 Veteran's Day	12	13 *Blurb Deadline!*
14 2M NCS WA3NSP 10M NCS W3AA 75M NCS KB3IV	15	16 Code Practice 8PM W3RM	17	18	19	20
21 2M NCS N3OWM 10M NCS W3AA 75M NCS W3PWG	22 Hoagie Carmichael born, 1899	23 Code Practice 8PM WA3NSP Full Moon ○	24	25 Thanksgiving	26	27
28 2M NCS W3STW 10M NCS W3AA 75M NCS W3STW	29	30 Code Practice 8 PM W3AOK				PHILMONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB